

BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Statement of Purpose

The goal of the Board of Elections Office is to serve the public in an efficient and courteous manner and to provide well-planned and managed elections with immediate results. We will conduct fair, honest, and impartial elections that encourage and provide easy access for all registered voters.

Outcomes

1. Prepare for and conduct the following scheduled elections:
 - a. October 11, 2011 - City of Hickory Primary (if needed)
 - b. November 8, 2011 – General Election for the eight Municipalities, the Hickory School System, and the Newton/Conover School System.
 - c. May 8, 2012 Primary (if a second primary is required, it will be conducted on the date set by the State Board of Elections)
2. Apply all election laws, by their effective date, passed by the General Assembly.
3. The State of North Carolina will be in the fourth year participating in the 2010 Census Redistricting Data Program as required by Federal and State law. We will continue implementing any requirements.
4. Ensure the required yearly preventive maintenance on all voting equipment is completed. This maintenance is conducted each year by the manufacturer to ensure each unit is operating properly for the upcoming year's elections.
5. Maintain a satisfaction rating of 90 percent or higher on 85 percent of all Customer Satisfaction Surveys, distributed to each person who files for office with the Catawba County Board of Elections.

Board of Elections

Organization: 140050

	2009/10 Actual	2010/11 Current	2011/12 Requested	2011/12 Approved	Percent Change
Revenues					
Federal	\$11,322	\$0	\$0	\$0	0%
State	0	0	0	0	0%
Charges & Fees	86,648	200	75,800	75,800	37800%
Miscellaneous	1,349	0	0	0	0%
General Fund	385,352	460,112	436,654	401,830	-13%
Total	\$484,671	\$460,312	\$512,454	\$477,630	4%
Expenses					
Personal Services	\$370,635	\$287,612	\$365,254	\$334,930	16%
Supplies & Operations	114,036	172,700	147,200	142,700	-17%
Capital	0	0	0	0	0%
Total	\$484,671	\$460,312	\$512,454	\$477,630	4%
Employees					
Permanent	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.00	-11%
Hourly	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0%
Total	4.52	4.52	4.52	4.02	-11%

Budget Highlights

The Fiscal Year 2011/12 budget includes funds for three elections: a municipal primary election for the City of Hickory, a municipal general election for all the County's eight municipalities, and a Presidential Primary in May. Municipalities reimburse the County for expenses related to municipal elections which increases revenue from charges and fees and decreases the General Fund contribution to the department. Election's budget includes several reductions, most notably the elimination of the Highland Recreation Center one-stop voting site, leaving only one one-stop voting site at the Library in Newton, and the reduction of an employee from full-time to half time. The department's budget also reflects a reduction in contracted services as the State advised the Director earlier in the year that it would again pay for voting equipment maintenance. This funding may be in jeopardy as the State finalizes its budget and funds were included in general fund contingency in case the State does not make this payment.

Performance Measurement

Fiscal Year 2011/12

The Board of Elections will focus on the successful completion of the Municipal General Election in its upcoming outcomes and the completion of a second primary if necessary. Other outcomes, consistent with prior years, will include the annual completion of voter equipment maintenance and applying all election laws as required by the General Assembly. The department will also strive to meet its customer service outcome for the second year in a row, focusing on those who file for office during the fiscal year.

Fiscal Year 2010/11

At mid-year, the Board of Elections was on track to achieve or had successfully achieved all outcomes. The November 2010 elections were successful despite the additional challenges due to instant runoff for a Court of Appeals judge position and recount. The Department also was on track to be in compliance with any mandates or laws from the 2010 General Assembly, in addition to any requirements of the 2010 Census that came into effect. Annual voter equipment maintenance was on target to be completed within the mandated time frame. List maintenance was completed in February. The Board of Election's new outcome for the fiscal year, to maintain a satisfaction rating of 90 percent or higher on 85 percent of all Customer Satisfaction Surveys, distributed to each person who files for office, was also achieved.

Fiscal Year 2009/10

The Board of Elections successfully completed their four outcomes for Fiscal Year 2009/10. This included the following:

- Prepare for and conduct the October Primary Election for the City of Hickory Primary Election, the eight municipalities' elections, the Hickory and Newton Conover School Systems' election, the May Primary Election, and be prepared to conduct a second primary if required. The City of Hickory Primary and all municipal elections were held without incident. A second primary was required for the office of United States Senate, Democrat following the Countywide primary and was successfully completed.
- Apply, by the mandated dates, all laws passed by the 2009 Long Session of the General Assembly. All new and updated laws passed by the General Assembly have been applied.
- As part of the 2010 Census Redistricting Data Program as required by Federal and State law, review all maps and ensure the accuracy of precincts and voter tabulation district lines, and work with the cities/towns and the school systems to carry out this process. The Board of Elections has and will continue to meet all requests to complete this project as the 2010 Census continues.
- Ensure the yearly preventive maintenance on all voting equipment is completed. Yearly preventing maintenance on all the voting equipment was completed in March 2010. All the equipment is in compliant with State law.
- Work with the Emergency Services Director to use the Community Alert System (CAS) to notify Catawba County voters on the locations and operating dates and hours for the one-stop voting sites before municipal and Countywide elections. Working cooperatively with the Emergency Services Director, the Department utilized the Community Alert System to notify the Catawba County voters of the May Primary and advised voters that one-stop voting sites locations may be found online. The notification was well-received by citizens, based on numerous positive comments, and will be used for future County and State elections.